

Today's Presentation*

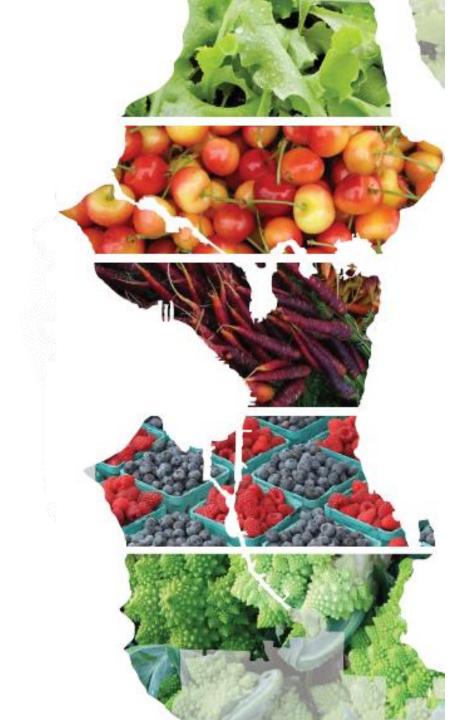
- Process and progress to update the Food Action Plan
- Highlights from stakeholder engagements (so far)
- Upcoming opportunities to review and comment on the draft Plan

^{*}This slide deck and the companion Community Engagement Summary Report will be made available on Friday, July 15.

Food Action Plan

Roadmap for an Equitable, Sustainable, and Resilient Local Food System

<u>Click here</u> for the City's Food Action Plan webpage



Food System Vision

eq·ui·ta·ble / ekwədəb(ə)l/

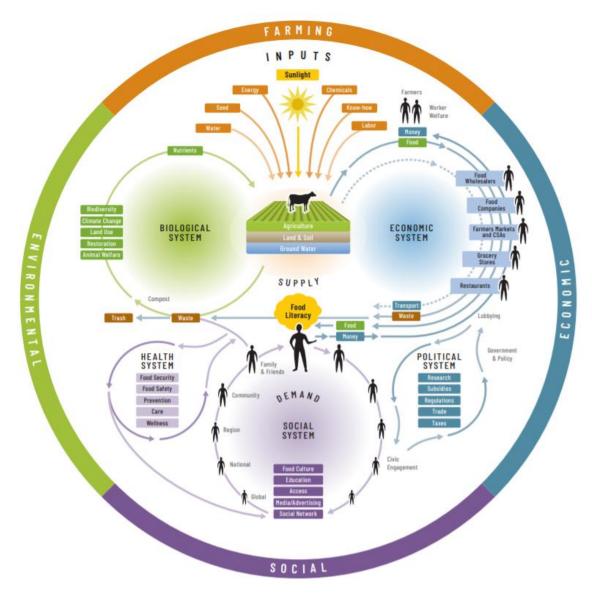
Everyone – regardless of race, place, and income – can fully participate, prosper, and benefit.

sus·tain·a·ble /səˈstānəb(ə)l/

Provides culturally acceptable, affordable, nutritious, adequate, safe, and fresh foods in a way that protects and even renews natural resources, advances race and social justice efforts, builds community wealth, and fulfills the food and nutrition needs now and in the future.

re·sil·ient /rəˈzilyənt/

Can withstand and recover from major changes, disruptions, or shocks (e.g., climate change, natural disasters, pandemics, financial or political crises) in a way that ensures a sufficient supply of acceptable and accessible food for all.



Source for graphic: https://www.nourishlife.org/teach/food-system-tools/

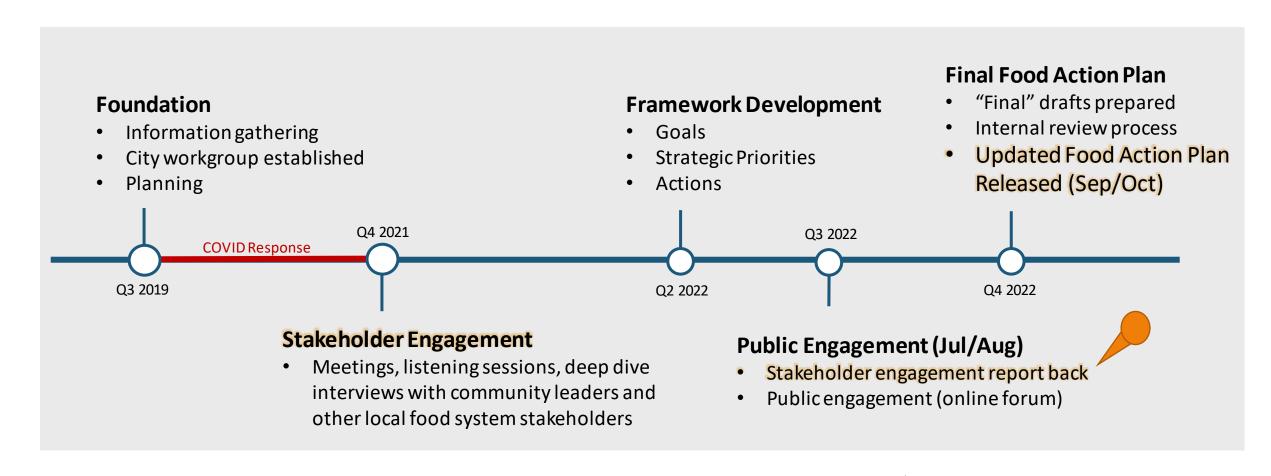
Food System Inequities

- Food insecurity and hunger
- Inadequate food access
- Health issues affected by diet
- Unfair labor practices
- Access to land, credit, wealth
- What kinds of traditions and knowledge are valued
- Environmental impact

People and communities of color, Native and Indigenous peoples and communities, immigrants, refugees, and people with low incomes are most impacted by food system injustices.

https://www.seattle.gov/rsji/racial-equity-research

Food Action Plan Update - Process and Timeline



Racial Equity Toolkits (RETs)

City Workgroup and Advisors

Department or Office	Example Topic(s) & Expertise
Civil Rights (OCR)*	Race and Social Justice Initiative
Economic Development (OED)^	Small Business Development, Permitting
Finance and Administrative Services (FAS)^	Purchasing and Procurement, Land Access, Emergency Preparedness
Human Services (HSD)**	Food Security, Food Access, Emergency Preparedness
Labor Standards (OLS)*	Labor Standards and Enforcement
Neighborhoods (DON)*	Community grants, P-Patch Community Gardens
Planning and Community Development (OPCD)*	Urban Planning, Land Use, Equitable Development Initiative
Public Health — Seattle & King County (PHSKC)*	Public Health, Food Access, Permitting
Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)*	Urban Food Systems, Urban Agriculture, Healthy Environment
Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)*	Food Waste Prevention, Food Recovery and Redistribution
Sustainability & Environment (OSE)**	Food Access, Food Policy and Planning, Healthy Communities, Climate
Transportation (SDOT)‡	Transportation + Food Access

^{*}Participates in workgroup

Community Advisors:

Environmental Justice Committee -

Food Justice Workgroup



2021 FOOD JUSTICE VALUES

Adopted by Seattle's Environmental Justice Committee | Fall 2021

The food system intersects with all aspects of our socio-political reality including health, land stewardship, diversity of culture, housing, the environment, economic opportunity and labor. A healthy food system is interconnected to our community's ability to thrive and be well. Access to nutritious, culturally relevant and affordable food is directly linked to quality of life.

One of the most common ways to address food injustices is through a food security or access framework. While the food access framework helps decisionmakers address hunger and inequitable access to food, the use of this framework often perpetuates the root causes of food injustice or, at best, leaves them unaddressed. The Environmental Justice Committee asserts that in order to address the root causes of food injustice, a more holistic framework of food sovereignty is needed.

For all people who live, play, learn, worship and work in Seattle to have self-determination in the food system, we must value and recognize:

- We must fundamentally shift how we relate to our food, the people who grow it, and the land on which it is grown.
- The food system must be rooted in reciprocity and move away from an extractive economy towards a regenerative infrastructure.
- Seattle's food system is part of a local and global system and must address root causes of racial, social, and environmental injustices.
- We must clearly link food to promoting long-term mental and physical health and well-being.
- Shift our food system to prioritize Black liberation and Indigenous sovereignty including centering Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), land back to local Tribes and reparations.
- Reimagine food and nutrition education to center cultural food traditions, joy, and reclamation of health.
- Agricultural and food workers in the United States have long been among the most exploited laborers in the country. Just food policies must center workers in the food system and ensure they have safety, the right to organize, dignity, healthcare, and livable wages in their workplaces.
- The City must address the historical disinvestment in BIPOC communities that have exacerbated an ongoing lack of access and affordability to land ownership for housing and growing food.
- Urban development must use innovative solutions that do not pit density and affordable housing against access to green spaces and land to grow food and traditional medicines.
- We must restore our traditional and cultural connections to food through access to thriving land.
- Our food system is part of the climate crisis. Food policies and programs need to be led by and prioritize those harmed first and worse including low-income, BIPOC, Queer, disabled, unhoused and undocumented people.
- We must create pathways for a lighter ecological footprint to foster a circular food economy.
- Ensure that all people have a choice to nourishing, culturally relevant food. This includes:
- Understanding and having a choice of healthy foods that are affordable, free of toxins, and not highly processed.
- Respecting and centering the various cultures that exist around food
- Recognizing that healing through food is an important aspect for our communities.
- Having reciprocal relationships with foods and sourcing of foods

Stakeholder Engagement

September 2021 – June 2022

Engagement Goals

- Understand participants' perspectives, experiences, and priorities related to the four Food Action Plan goals.
- Prioritize communities most impacted by racial and socioeconomic injustices.
- Prevent harm and distrust avoid being extractive and transactional, avoid engagement fatigue, offered compensation to community participants for their time and expertise.

Increase Equity in Food Access Support Locally Grown Food

Expand
Equitable
Economic
Opportunity

Prevent
Food Waste
& Climate
Pollution

Food Action Plan goals

Internal questions that guided engagement planning

- Who is most impacted by food system inequities? What do we already know about their priorities?
- Where are there gaps in our knowledge and understanding?
- What are COVID and climate change teaching us about the local food system? What else do we need to examine?
- How can our stakeholder engagement align with the EJC's food justice values?

Stakeholder Types

Nonprofit Organizations

- Anti-hunger/anti-poverty action coalitions
- Food justice organizations
- Community-based public health orgs.
- Local/regional food and farming advocacy groups and coalitions

Community Advisory Boards and Committees

- Environmental Justice Committee
- Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board
- Lived Experience Coalition

Leaders and Influencers from

- Mutual aid networks
- Food and Environmental Justice Movements
- Urban agriculture
- Youth & student leaders

Local and Regional Farms & Food Economy

- Neighborhood business districts
- Farmers markets, farm stands, and vendors
- Farmers and food producers
- Grocery stores and food retailers
- Chefs, restaurants
- Cooperatives & food hubs

Government*

- City of Seattle departments
- Public Health Seattle & King County
- King County departments
- Washington State Department of Agriculture

Educational Institutions*

- Seattle Public Schools
- Seattle Community Colleges
- Universities

^{*}Results from engagements with government agencies and institutions are not included in this report back

Approaches

- Focused on community, organization, and business leaders
- Offered a variety of engagement types:
 - Focus groups and listening sessions
 - In-depth interviews
 - Surveys
- Facilitated by at least two City staff
 - Hired a trusted consultant for three specific engagements
- Met virtually, using video conferencing
- Scheduled at participants' convenience + to maximize participation
- Offered compensation to community participants at \$75-\$125/hour

Summary of Engagements

(September 2021 - June 2022)

Engagement Method	Invited	Participated	
	# Organizations/ Entities	# of People	# of Organizations/ Entities Represented
In-depth interviews (60-90 minutes)	25	24	21
Listening sessions	213	144	56+
Pre- and/or post engagement surveys	116	29	29

Stakeholder Group (n = # of participants)	Method	Status
BIPOC Farmers & Food Producers* (n=14)	Listening Session	Completed
Business Associations (n=3)	In-depth Interviews	Completed
Community Gardeners & Urban Farmers (n=7)	Listening Session	Completed
Community Food Leaders (n=17)	In-depth Interviews	Completed
Environmental Justice Committee (Food Justice Workgroup) (n=4)	Meetings & Listening Sessions	Ongoing
Farm to Table Providers (n=6)	Listening Session	Completed
Farmers Markets of Seattle (n=6)	Listening Session	Completed
Food Businesses (n=18)	Listening Session	Completed
Lived Experience Coalition (n=40)	Listening Session	Completed
Meals Partnership Coalition (n=8)	Survey + Listening Session	Completed
Mutual Aid Food Access Organizers* (n=7)	Listening Session	Completed
Native Foods Listening Session* (n=TBD)	Listening Session – July 16, 2022	In progress
Rainier Beach Action Coalition (n=6)	Survey	Completed
School Meals & Food Education Working Group (n=25)	Meetings & Listening Sessions	Ongoing
Seattle Food Committee (n=13)	Survey + Listening Session	Completed
Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board	Meetings (n=11) + Listening Sessions (n=4)	Ongoing
Youth food justice leaders (with FEEST) (n=3)	Focus Group	Completed

^{*}Engagement designed and facilitated by a trusted consultant with deep ties to stakeholder group

Key Findings

Global Themes

- Address root causes.
- Seattle's affordability crisis has ripple effects throughout the food system.
- City policies and practices can help or hinder community-led action.
- More voices and representation are needed in food programs and policies.
- City has important role as connector and facilitator.

Strategic Priorities

- 1. Food and Meal Programs: Increase access to food and meal programs that are culturally responsive and promote health and food security.
- **2. Land Access:** Increase access to land for growing food and food-oriented development projects, prioritizing communities most impacted by historical racist policies and practices.
- **3. Education:** Expand access to culturally relevant and empowering food and nutrition education for youth, adults, and elders.
- **4. Economy & Labor:** Create an equitable, fair, and healthy local food economy for Seattle workers, businesses, and residents.
- 5. Supply Chains: Foster equitable, environmentally sustainable, and strong local supply chains.
- **6. Food Waste:** Prevent food waste, rescue (redistribute) surplus food for people who need it and compost the rest into new natural resources.
- **7. Environment:** Reduce the climate pollution associated with Seattle's food system and support food produced using regenerative practices

Increase access to food and meal programs that are culturally responsive and promote health and food security.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- The cost of healthy food is a key food access barrier.
- Lack of transportation is a key food access barrier.
- Invest in BIPOC-led food access programming.
- Prioritize working with BIPOC or WMBE owned businesses in City food and meal programs.
- Support innovative, collaborative, strengths-based community partnerships.
- Food programs should be person-centered and meet nutrition, medical, dietary, and cultural needs.
- Youth and elders are priority populations for food and meal programs.

Increase access to food and meal programs that are culturally responsive and promote health and food security.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 1.A. Increase investments in community-led innovations and action (includes technical assistance support)
- 1.B. Invest in food assistance programs that source food from local growers and producers
- 1.C. Expand Fresh Bucks to serve more people and in new ways (includes expansion of retail network)
- 1.D. Continue work with Seattle Public Schools to increase access to fresh, nutritious, and culturally relevant food
- 1.E. Expand Farm to Early Care and Education and Farm to Summer Meals
- 1.F. Increase access to culturally relevant and nutritious food for elders in community and home settings
- 1.G. Develop coordinated food access responses for unsheltered populations
- 1.H. Strengthen meal programs and food bank capacity to provide good food and services
- 1.l. Pilot new "Food Is Medicine" programs in partnership with community health systems
- 1.J. Support coordinated disaster preparedness planning

Increase access to land for growing food and food-oriented development projects, prioritizing communities most impacted by historical racist policies and practices.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- Community gardens and urban farms should be a primary focus for City.
- Increase long-term access to urban and rural land for food production.
- Encourage incorporation of gardens and farms into urban land use planning, along with food retail and other food-related uses.
- City policies, permitting, and regulations create barriers for community gardens and urban farmers
- Improve support from City departments to develop urban farms and community gardens.

Increase access to land for growing food and food-oriented development projects, prioritizing communities most impacted by historical racist policies and practices.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 2.A. Develop and support accessible avenues for community land ownership Increase community access to City-owned land to grow food (and provide necessary
- 2.B supports)
- 2.C. Implement opportunities to support the local food system in all major land use decisions
- 2.D. Co-locate healthy food retail with housing, transit, and neighborhood development projects
- 2.E. Increase low maintenance or passive food production
- 2.F. Preserve peri-urban and rural farmland for food production and salmon habitat
- 2.G. Develop and disseminate toolkits and trainings for growers

Expand access to culturally relevant and empowering food and nutrition education for youth, adults, and elders.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- Fund community education on a range of food and nutrition topics.
- Prioritize community-led education programs that hire food workers, farmers, food justice leaders, and BIPOC community members to be educators.
- Make nutrition and culinary classes available to more students within Seattle schools.
- Explore food and farm related job programs and workforce development.

Expand access to culturally relevant and empowering food and nutrition education for youth, adults, and elders.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 3.A. Expand the Urban Food System Program/BLOOM Fellowship
- 3.B. Support community-led, culturally relevant health promotion and nutrition education
- 3.C. Support youth job training in community food production and food justice projects
- 3.D Fund holistically, culturally relevant food and nutrition programming for youth

Create an equitable, fair, and healthy local food economy for Seattle workers, businesses, and residents.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

Food Workers:

- Improve job quality, benefits, protections, and livable wages for food workers.
- Increase outreach and education to food businesses and workers about labor laws.

Farmers and Food Business:

- Small businesses are burdened by staffing, financing, resource challenges.
- Small, new, and BIPOC-owned food businesses and farmers need access to grants, financing, and tax relief.
- Facilitate or fund accessible, equitable food facilities and infrastructure.
- Improve City permitting processes and provide in-language technical support.

Neighborhood-level food economy:

- Make farmers market spaces more accessible to BIPOC farmers and food producers.
- Increase the diversity of stores that carry culturally relevant foods.
- Support community organizations to establish subsidized food retailers and businesses in underserved areas.

Create an equitable, fair, and healthy local food economy for Seattle workers, businesses, and residents.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 4.A. Implement food-centered community and economic development strategies

 Increase financing opportunities to support businesses working to create a more equitable
- 4.B. and resilient food system

 Streamline the permitting process for farmers markets, farm stands, and mobile food
- 4.C. businesses
- 4.D. Increase the Labor Standards Community Outreach and Education Fund
- 4.E. Outreach and education to food system workers and businesses about Seattle's labor laws
- 4.F. Develop a High Road Employer Program
- 4.G. Support labor protections and safety for people working in the food and agricultural sectors

Foster equitable, environmentally sustainable, and strong local supply chains.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- Hard-asset infrastructure is a top priority.
- Farmers, food producers, and food businesses need a variety of technical assistance and ongoing individualized support.
- Recognize and promote food businesses that source local, sustainable ingredients.
- Use values-based food purchasing in City food programs and encourage other major food service institutions to do the same.

Foster equitable, environmentally sustainable, and strong local supply chains.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 5.A. Create a Values-Based Food Purchasing program
- 5.B. Invest in hard-asset infrastructure to support local food system
- 5.C. Provide technical assistance, resources for small food and farm businesses
- 5.D. Improve regional coordination and sourcing of local/regional, sustainably produced food

Prevent food waste, rescue (redistribute) surplus food for people who need it and compost the rest into new natural resources.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- Prevent and reduce food waste created by supermarkets.
- Strengthen food-surplus and food rescue programming.
- Prevent and reduce consumer, household, and businesslevel food waste through education.
- Invest in zero food waste community projects.
- Improve composting efforts.
- Educate residents about the safety and quality of Seattle's tap water.

Prevent food waste, rescue (redistribute) surplus food for people who need it and compost the rest into new natural resources.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 6.A. Maintain and amplify food waste prevention campaigns focused on consumers
- 6.B. Partner with industry and institutions to prevent food waste

 Work with hunger relief organizations to reduce food waste and increase food
- 6.C. rescue/redistribution
- 6.D. Strengthen policies for quality, nutritious, and culturally relevant rescued and donated food
- 6.E. Increase composting of inedible food from businesses and consumers
- 6.F. Reduce single-use food service ware and plastics

Reduce the climate pollution associated with Seattle's food system and support food produced using regenerative practices.





What We Heard (Key Themes)

- Measure and monitor climate pollution created by the local food system.
- Pay attention to soil and water.
- Support action by communities most impacted by climate change.
- Increase consumption of locally grown and in-season foods.

Reduce the climate pollution associated with Seattle's food system and support food produced using regenerative practices.

Actions (draft) informed by what we heard

- 7.A. Identify ways to reduce GHG emissions associated with food production and consumption in Seattle
- 7.B. Invest in public awareness campaigns to promote pro-climate food
- 7.C. Support local food producers to use regenerative practices and promote a circular food economy

What's Next?

- Focused online forum about draft Food Action Plan Strategic Priorities (7) and Actions (40)
- Sign up with name and email, then start sharing your opinions on whatever topics are most important to you

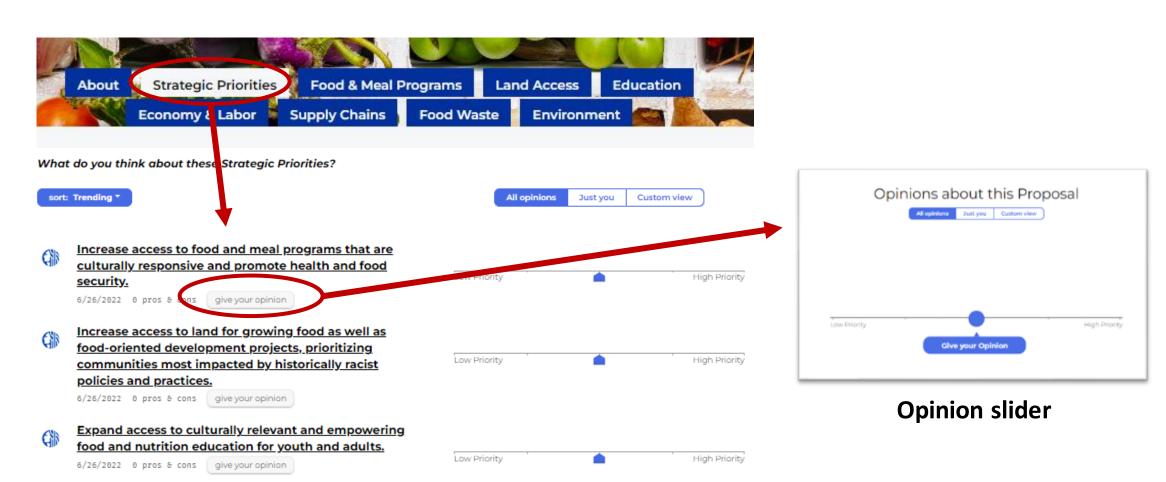






Click on tabs to give your opinion on Strategic Priorities or Actions associated with each Priority





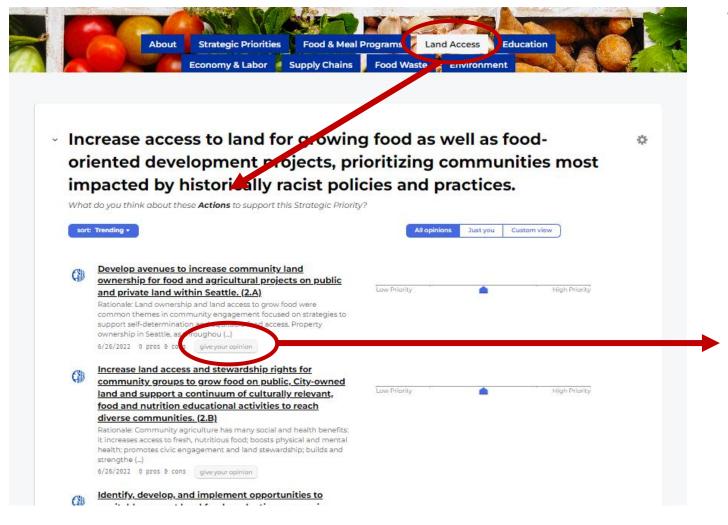
Create an equitable, fair, and healthy local food

Strategic Priorities Tab





Option to give Pros/Cons



Action 2.A

Increase access to land for growing food as well as food-oriented development projects, prioritizing communities most impacted by historically racist policies and practices. Develop avenues to increase community land ownership for food and agricultural projects on public and private land within Seattle. (2.A) Food Action Plan Administrator Rationale: Land ownership and land access to grow food were common themes in community engagement focused on self-determination and equitable food access. Property ownership in Seattle, as throughout the U.S., is istorical harms including colonization and theft of indigenous lands, control of land and resources through redlining, displacement, and other racist policies and practices. erage existing City tools to support accessible avenues for community Example approaches from community feedback: Le land ownership, including: Equitable Development Initiative (EDI), to support land stewardship and ownership that advances Equity Drivers from the EDI action plan · Land disposition and transfers · Work with community leaders and equitable land use consultants to explore accessible avenues for community land ownership, access, and stewardship on a range of land use topics including equitable development, food, environment, alternatives to private land "ownership", and housing. edit delete Opinions about this Proposal Just you Custom view Low Priority High Priority

Give your Opinion

Land Access (Strategic Priority)



Example of visual summary the online forum will produce

Food Action Plan - online forum timeline

July 15 You will be invited to start providing input

- Early input encouraged to help set the tone for the online dialogue
- Feel free to forward to your networks

July 25 Broader community and public comment begins

 City Food Action Plan departments will promote via social media and email listservs

August 19 Forum closes for everyone

Input will be used to finalize the updated Food Action Plan

Next Steps

1. Look for our 7/15 email with

- ✓ This slide deck
- ✓ Companion Community Engagement summary report
- ✓ Link to online forum

2. Participate in the online forum

- ✓ Forum will be open between July 15 August 19
- ✓ Your early participation encouraged to help set the tone

3. Look for a final Food Action Plan by September/October

✓ Follow-up about acknowledging your participation in developing the plan

Thank you! Questions?

Acknowledgements

Food Action Plan City Workgroup

Kenya Fredie, Department of Neighborhoods

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Joshua Jenkins, Black Farmers Collective